

Explanatory Notes

The certificates that follow are to be used for the export of breeding poultry other than ratites to the EU; hatching eggs from poultry other than ratites to the EU; day-old chicks other than from ratites to the EU; and for slaughter poultry and poultry for restocking game supplies, other than ratites, to the EU.

Please advise exporters to check with their importers about obtaining a copy of the applicable health certificate in the official language of the country of destination.

Concerning various directives and decisions noted in the health certificates:

- Directive 90/539/EEC is the general set of import requirements for poultry/day-old chicks/hatching eggs to the EU. U.S. commercial poultry establishments meet these conditions.
- Decision 93/342/EEC defines ways of classifying countries/regions free of Avian Influenza (AI) and Newcastle Disease (ND). The U.S. is officially free of highly pathogenic AI (fowl plague) and US Region 1 is officially free of velogenic viscerotropic ND (VVND) (the strain of ND the EU is primarily concerned about).

Concerning the Section on the health certificates entitled "Supplementary Health Information(9)", please note that this section may be deleted since the US Region 1 is officially free of VVND.

ANNEX I

MODEL A
ANIMAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE
for breeding or productive poultry other than
ratites intended for consignment to the European Community

1. Consignor (name and address in full)

2. HEALTH CERTIFICATE

No.

ORIGINAL

3.1 Country of origin: U.S.A

3.2 Region of origin(1): _____

4. Consignee (name and address in full)

5. COMPETENT AUTHORITY

5.1 Ministry: USDA/APHIS

5.2 Service: Veterinary Services (VS)

6. COMPETENT AUTHORITY (LOCAL LEVEL): (VS) State of Origin

7. Place of loading: _____

8. Means of transport(2): _____

9.1 Member State of destination: _____

9.2 Final destination:(name and address in full) _____

10. Address of establishment(s) of origin: _____

10.1 Breeding(3): _____

10.2 Rearing (3): _____

11. Approval number(s) of the establishment(s) of origin: _____

11.1 Breeding (3): _____

11.2 Rearing (3): _____

12. Poultry species: _____

13. Category: Pure line/grandparents/parents/laying pullets/others(3): _____

14. Consignment identification details: (including any container seal numbers) _____

15. Quantity: (in words and figures) _____

15.1 Number of birds: _____

15.2 Number of crates or cages: _____

NOTES:

(a) A separate certificate must be provided for each consignment of breeding or production poultry in the same category, transported in the same railway wagon, lorry, aircraft or ship and consigned to the same destination.

(b) The original of the certificate must accompany the consignment until it reaches the border inspection post.

(c) it must be completed on the day of loading and all time limits referred to relate to that date.

(d) After importation the poultry must be kept in isolation on the holding of destination for at least six weeks in accordance with the provisions of Article 3, 1 of Commission Decision 96/482/EC.

(1) Only to be completed if the authorization to export to the Community is restricted to certain regions of the third country concerned.

(2) Indicate means of transport and registration marks or registered name, as appropriate.

(3) Delete the unnecessary reference.

16. I, the undersigned official veterinarian, hereby certify, in accordance with the provisions of Directive 90/539/EEC:

I. Origin of poultry

that the poultry have remained on the territory of _____(4), in the region of _____(1) for at least three months or since hatching if younger than three months. If imported into the country of origin they were imported in accordance with veterinary conditions at least as strict as the relevant requirements of Directive 90/539/EEC, including any subsidiary Decisions;

II. Health Information

1. that _____(4), region _____(1) is free from Avian influenza and Newcastle disease as defined in Decision 93/432/EEC;

2. that the poultry described in this certificate meet the following requirements:

(a) they have been examined this day and show no clinical signs or suspicion of disease;

(b) they have been held since hatching or for more than six weeks in the following establishment(s) officially approved in accordance with requirements which are at least equivalent to those laid down in Annex II to

Directive 90/539/EEC: _____(5)

(i) for which the approval is not suspended or withdrawn;

(ii) which is (are) not subject to any animal health restriction;

- (iii) around which, within a radius of 25 km, there has been no outbreak of Avian influenza or Newcastle disease for at least 30 days;
- (c) they have during the period mentioned in (b) had no contact with poultry not meeting the requirements laid down in this certificate or with wild birds;
- (d) they are originating from a flock
 - (i) which has been examined this day and shows no clinical signs or suspicion of disease;
 - (ii) which has been submitted to a disease surveillance program for (6)
 - Salmonella pullorum, S. gallinarum and Mycoplasma gallisepticum (fowls)
 - Salmonella arizonae, S. pullorum and S. gallinarum, Mycoplasma meleagridis and M. gallisepticum (turkeys)
 - Salmonella pullorum and S. gallinarum (guinea fowls, quails, pheasants, partridges and ducks) according to Chapter III of Annex II of Directive 30/539/EEC and was not found infected or suspected of infection by these agents;
 - (iii) -which has not been vaccinated against Newcastle disease(6)
-which has been vaccinated against Newcastle disease using:

(name, type - live or inactivated - of and NDV strain used in vaccine(s)) at the age of _____ weeks (6);
 - (iv) which was vaccinated, using officially approved vaccines

At the age of

Against

III. Additional health information

1. that, in the event the consignment is destined for a Member State or region from which the status has been established in accordance with Article 12, 2 of Directive 90/539/EEC (7),
 - (a) the poultry have not been vaccinated against Newcastle disease and
 - (b) they have been isolated for 14 days before consignment, at either the holding or a quarantine station under the supervision of the official veterinarian. In this connection, no poultry at the holding of origin or quarantine station, as applicable,

may have been vaccinated against Newcastle disease during the 21 days preceding consignment and no bird which is not due for consignment may have entered the holding or quarantine station during that time; in addition no vaccinations may be carried out in the quarantine station, and

- (c) they have undergone during the 14 days preceding consignment, serological examination on the presence of Newcastle disease antibodies with negative result.

- (4) Name of the country of origin.
- (5) Approval number(s) of approved establishment(s) of origin.
- (6) Delete the unnecessary reference
- (7) When the consignment is not destined for such Member States or regions (currently Denmark, Ireland, Finland, Sweden and, in the United Kingdom, Northern Ireland), the guarantees given under point III.1. must be deleted.

2. that following supplementary requirements, imposed by the Member State of destination according to Articles 13 and/or 14 of Directive 90/539/EEC are met:

- 3. that, if the Member State of destination is Finland or Sweden, the breeding poultry have been tested with negative results according to the rules laid down in Commission Decision 95/160/EC(8).
- 4. that, if the Member State of destination is Finland or Sweden, the laying hens (productive poultry reared with a view to producing eggs for consumption) have been tested with negative results according to the rules laid down in Commission Decision 95/161/EC(8).

IV. Supplementary health information (9)

that, although the use of vaccines against Newcastle disease which do not fulfill the specific requirements of Annex B, 2 of Decision 93/342/EEC, is not prohibited in _____
_____(4), the poultry

- (a) have not been vaccinated for at least 12 months with such vaccines; and
- (b) are originating from a flock which has undergone not earlier than 14 days preceding consignment on the basis of a random sample of cloacal swabs of at least 60 birds of each flock concerned, a virus isolation test for Newcastle disease, carried out in an official laboratory, in which no avian paramyxoviruses with an Intracerebral Pathogenicity Index (I.C.P.I) of more than 0.4 have been found; and
- (c) have not been in contact during the last 60 days before consignment with poultry which do not fulfill the guarantees mentioned respectively under (a) and (b); and

- (d) have been isolated under official surveillance on the holding of origin during the 14 day period mentioned in (b).

V. Transport information

That the poultry are transported in crates or cages:

- (a) which contain only poultry of the same species, category and type, coming from the same establishment;
- (b) which bear the approval number of the establishment of origin;
- (c) which are closed in accordance with the instructions of the competent authority in such a way as to avoid any possibility of substitution of the contents;
- (d) which are designed, as well as the vehicles in which they are transported, so as to:
- (i) preclude the loss of excrement and minimize the loss of feathers during transport;
 - (ii) allow visual inspection of the poultry;
 - (iii) allow cleansing and disinfection;
- (e) which have been, as well as the vehicles in which they are transported, cleansed and disinfected before loading in accordance with the instructions of the competent authority.

17. This certificate is valid for five days.

Done at _____

(Signature of USDA accredited veterinarian)

on _____

(Name in capital letters of USDA accredited
veterinarian)

Seal (10)

(Signature of official (10) USDA federal veterinarian)

(Name in capital letters, qualifications and title of
USDA federal veterinarian)

(8) Delete if not applicable

(9) This guarantee has only to be given for poultry originating from countries or parts thereof where the provisions of Article 4 (4) of Decision 93/342/EEC apply. For poultry originating from other countries, this chapter must be deleted.

(10) Stamp and signature in a color different to that of the printing.